

for setting up of Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for renewable energy products; and

(b) the steps Government are taking to encourage investment in renewable energy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) There is no intention on the part of the Government at this juncture to form a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for setting up of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for renewable energy products. However, the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, a non-banking financial company under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, is envisaging the formation of an SPV for setting up, maintaining and running of an SEZ for renewable energy products.

(b) To encourage private investment in renewable energy sector, fiscal and financial incentives are being provided that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional duties and relief from taxes. These apart, preferential tariff for grid-interactive power is being given in most potential States. District-level Advisory Committees have been also constituted in States to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes/programmes in the country.

Installation of solar heater systems

641. MS. PRAMILA BOHJDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to install solar heaters in 3.5 million homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating those that are proposed to be installed in Orissa;

(c) whether India has availability of solar energy up to 300 days a year in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the status of Orissa in the solar sector and what is the action plan of Government to develop this sector in this backward region?.

[6 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) It is proposed to install 10 million sq. m. of collector area for solar water heating and other applications during the 11th Plan period. This includes 7 million sq. m. of solar collector area for domestic systems which are expected to provide hot water in around 3.5 million homes in the country including Orissa. No State-wise targets have been fixed as the programme is proposed to be implemented in market mode with participation of manufacturers, suppliers and banks/financial institutions.

(c) The availability of solar energy varies from 250-300 days in different parts of the country.

(d) Solar water heating systems of 35,200 litres per day capacity have been installed in the State during the last three years including domestic systems and installations in nursing homes, hospitals and rest houses. Steps have been taken by Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) to popularize solar water heating systems through awareness campaigns, organizing workshops, contacting individuals, hotels, hospitals etc. for installation of the systems. Steps have also been taken to amend building bye-laws in the State to facilitate mandatory installation of solar water heating systems in functional Government buildings. In addition, around 5769 solar street lighting systems, 4,344 home lighting systems, 9882 solar lanterns, 36.52 KW capacity SPV power plants and 3,437 solar cookers have been deployed in the State upto 30.09.2006.

Formulation of new energy policy

642. SHRI O.T LEPCHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any draft of a new energy policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the existing energy policy being implemented in the country has failed to meet its objectives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?